

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IGA-02 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /117 W

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R 311220Z JG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0239

INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 1729

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, USB /CN CH, JA

SUBRJ: SANYA'S "MEET THE PEOPLE" PROGRAM

REF : A. FBIS BANGKOK 310831Z JAN 74 AND ADDS

B. BANGKOK 0948

SUMMARY:: PRIME MINISTER SANYA THAMMASAK HOSTED THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE MINISTERS ON HIS "MEET THE PEOPLE", SHOW JANUARY 30. THE FOREIGN MINISTER INCLUDED IN HIS TOUR D'HORIZON THE COMMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THAILAND SHOULD "SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS" THEIR PROBLEMS IN ORDER TO DETERMINE A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY POLICY. THE DEFENSE MINISTER STRESSED THAT THE ARMED FORCES WILL SEEK SELF-SUFFICIENCY. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIME MINISTER SANYA THAMMASAK AGAIN HAD FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN ISSARANGKUN NA AYUTTHAYA AND AIR CHIEF MARSHAL DAWE CHULLASAPYA ON HIS BI-WEEKLY NATIONAL TELEVISION SHOW. SANYA MORE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THIS THAN IN PREVIOUS TELEVISION PROGRAMS. FBIS CARRIED THE COMPLETE TEXT (REF A).

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2. THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S MAIN POINTS WERE THE SAME THAT HE COVERED IN HIS JANUARY 16 SPEECH BEFORE THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB- (REF B). IN A WORLD OF DETENTE, HE SAYS, THAILAND IS ALTERING ITS POLICIES AND CONDUCTING RELATIONS WITH ANY FRIENDLY COUNTRY. CHARUNPHAN TERMED THE US AN OLD AND CLOSE FRIEND, BUT SAID THAT THAILAND WOULD LIKE TO SEE ASSISTANCE S BTED#AWAY FROM MILITARY EQUIPMENT. THAI-US RELATIONS MUST BE CONDUCTED ON A BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING. THEREFORE, THAILAND AND THE US SHOULD "SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS" PROBLEMS IN ORDER TO CREATE MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AND BENEFICIAL POLICIES.

3. AFTER A COMMENT TO DISPERSE FEARS ABOUT A MILITARY COUP. THE DEFENSE MINISTER EMPHASIZED THAT THE ARMED FORCES INTENDED TO BE AS SELF-RELIANT AS POSSIBLE. DAWEE POINTED OUT THAT US MILITARY ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN BENEFICIAL TO THAILAND WHICH COULD HARDLY HAVE AFFORDED SUCH EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT. ON THE INSURGENCY, DAWEE SAID THAT THE COMMUNIST TERRORISTS (CT) WERE COMPLETELY DEDICATED TO CREATING DISORDER AND THAT THE INSECURITY IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA ASSISTED THE CT'S PURPOSE. IN ADDITION TO EXPECTED PLEDGES TO KING AND COUNTRY, DAWEE WARNED THE PEOPLE "NOT TO KILL THEMSELVES WITH AN OVERDOSE OF DEMOCRACY."

4. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PROGRAM SANYA AGAIN STRESSED THAT THAILAND WILL NOT ACCEPT COMMUNISM AND THAT THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS TO OPPOSE THE COMMUNIST THREAT.

5. COMMENT: THE OFFICIALS IMPLIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SOUGHT TO DO WHAT WAS BEST AND WISEST FOR THAILAND. THE PRESENTATION OF ALL THOSE HAD A NATIO\*ALIST BENT. COMMENTS OF APPRECIATION FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BALANCED THIS THEME, BUT THE PRESENTATION WILL UNDERCUT SOME CRITICS OF THE GOVERNMENT WHO CLAIM THAT THAILAND'S POLICIES FOLLOW IN THE WAKE OF WORLD POWERS. THIS PRESS BASICALLY PROVIDED STRAIGHT REPORTS OF THE NATIONALLY TELEVISED SHOW, AND THERE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ANY EDITORIALS DISCUSSING THEPOINTS COVERED.

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NOTE BY OCT: BANGKOK 1729 # AS RECEIVED.  
WILL BE SERVICED ON REQUEST.

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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**Draft Date:** 31 JAN 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Subject:** JC SANYA'S "MEET THE PEOPLE" PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CH, JA, TH, US, (SANYA THAMMASAK)  
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